



Is the World Council of Churches (WCC) True to Biblical Unity?

Sixbert SANGWA • June 27, 2024

The World Council of Churches (WCC) is a prominent international, interdenominational fellowship of Christian churches founded in 1948 and headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. With member churches in over 110 countries representing over 560 million individuals, the stated aim of the WCC is *"to pursue the goal of the visible unity of the Church. This involves a process of renewal and change in which member churches pray, worship, discuss and work together."*

While the desire for Christian unity is understandable and even biblical, the WCC's approach raises significant concerns from a biblical perspective, especially in light of today's broader ecumenical trends towards a one-world religion.

Firstly, the WCC accepts the ordination of women and practicing homosexuals, which departs from the clear biblical teaching on gender roles in the church. The Bible teaches that the role of church leadership is reserved for qualified men ([1 Timothy 2:12-14](#), [1 Timothy 3:1-7](#), [Titus 1:5-9](#)). This compromising stance on biblical authority is troubling, as the church is called to be the *"pillar and buttress of the truth"* ([1 Timothy 3:15](#)).

Secondly, the WCC tolerates a wide variety of heretical beliefs, including Gnosticism and other unbiblical theologies. This contradicts the biblical mandate to *"contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints"* ([Jude 1:3](#)) and to *"watch your life and doctrine closely"* ([1 Timothy 4:16](#)). The Bible emphasizes the importance of guarding the truth of the gospel and not allowing it to be compromised ([Galatians 1:6-9](#)). Furthermore, the WCC has historically been led by those who hold to liberal theology and promote progressive social policies at odds with biblical principles. For example, the WCC has approved of abortion, which the Bible clearly condemns as the shedding of innocent blood ([Proverbs 6:16-17](#), [Jeremiah 1:5](#)). This raises concerns about the WCC's alignment with the world's values rather than the timeless truths of Scripture.

Additionally, the WCC's ecumenical approach has led to the inclusion of various non-Christian religious traditions, which contradicts the biblical teaching that Jesus is the only way to the Father ([John 14:6](#), [Acts 4:12](#)). The Bible is clear that there is no salvation apart from faith in Christ, and the WCC's openness to religious pluralism is a troubling departure from this foundational truth.

Interestingly, the WCC's efforts to unite various Christian denominations and traditions do not seem to address the root causes of the historical divisions within the church. The Protestant Reformation, for example, arose out of a need to return to the authority of Scripture and the centrality of the gospel message, which had been obscured by the unbiblical doctrines and practices of the Roman Catholic Church. By glossing over these fundamental theological differences, the WCC's approach risks creating a false unity that compromises the truth.

In the broader context of today's ecumenical trends, the WCC's activities can be seen as part of a concerning movement towards a one-world religion, often referred to as the *"great prostitute"* of [Revelation 17](#). This prophetic vision describes a religious system that will seek to unite all faiths under a single banner, ultimately leading to the deception of many and the rejection of the true gospel of Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches that true unity can only be found in the unwavering commitment to the truth of God's Word ([Ephesians 4:3-6](#), [1 Corinthians 1:10](#)). Jesus prayed for the unity of His followers, but it was a unity rooted in the truth, not a forced unity that compromises doctrine ([John 17:17-23](#)). The Apostle Paul also emphasized the importance of unity in the body of Christ, but this unity was based on a shared faith in the gospel, not a lowest common denominator approach ([1 Corinthians 1:10](#), [Ephesians 4:13](#)).

In conclusion, while the World Council of Churches may have noble intentions, its embrace of liberal theology, progressive social policies, and openness to religious pluralism are deeply concerning from a biblical perspective, especially in light of today's ecumenical trends. As believers, we are called to be *"watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong"* ([1 Corinthians 16:13](#)) and to *"not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind"* ([Romans 12:2](#)). The World Council of Churches frequently emphasizes unity and has even reflected unity in Christ and the Holy Spirit in its publications. However, this unity often comes at the expense of adhering to the absolute truth of God's Word. True Christian unity can only be found in the uncompromising commitment to the truth of God's Word and the gospel of Jesus Christ, not in the forced unity of religious institutions.

Related Articles

- [Is it Appropriate to Call Someone "Reverend"?](#)
- [Does the Bible Restrict Women from Serving as Pastors?](#)
- [Is Ecumenism Biblical or a Pathway to a One-World Religion?](#)
- [How Should Christians Understand LGBTQIA+ and Pride Month?](#)
- [Is a Catholic Saved or Should S/He Consider Becoming a Christian?](#)
- [Is the One-World Religion an Apostate Feature of the End Times Scenario?](#)
- [Could Abortion Be Challenging Christian Values and Encouraging Immorality Behind the Scenes?](#)

Further Resources

- Explore Online Ministry Opportunities at [Open Christian Ministries \(USA\)](#)
- Explore Christian Business Services at the [Center for Faith and Work \(Rwanda\)](#)
- Pursue an Affordable Online Christian Degree at [Open Christian University \(USA\)](#)
- Kindly Share Your Question for Consideration in Future Articles. [Click Here to Submit](#)



[← Back to blog](#)

Comments (0)

Post Comment

